

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on April 5, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicants have editorially amended claims 1, 2, 7-9, 11 and 14, cancelled claim 13 without prejudice and added new claims 19-21. The new and amended claims are supported by pages 6-10 of the specification, and no new matter is added thereby. Claims 1, 11 and 20 are the independent claims, and claims 1-12 and 14-21 are pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC §112 for lack of antecedent basis. This rejection is respectfully traversed, claim 1 having been suitably amended.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-12 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over the combination of *Shahar et al.* (US 5,922,055) with *Gulick et al.* (US 2004/0250063 A1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 1, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest "each address record comprising an identity and an address range associated with one of a plurality of flash ROMs". Neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest "a strapping component configured to output a signal indicating one of a plurality of flash ROM types corresponding to the flash ROMs". And further, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest a process unit "determining the indicated flash ROM type according to the signal" output from the strapping

component, and “querying the identity by matching the access range and one of the address ranges in the address records”.

More particularly, contrary to the assertion in the Office Action, the Plug and Play (PnP) controller 8 of *Shahar et al.* does not in any way resemble or correspond to the claimed “strapping component”. For example, see page 8, lines 6-10 of the present specification :

The strapping component 302 outputs a signal, such as “on” or “off”, to determine which type of flash ROM is present before conducting the power on self test (POST) procedure, and is a hardware component, preferably a strapping pin.

As is reflected in the above example, the “strapping component” is a component that optionally straps certain connections together so as to provide an indication of, in this case, what type of flash ROM is installed on the motherboard.

Thus, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 1 of the present application. Claim 1 and all claims that depend therefrom are therefore allowable.

Turning to claim 11, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest a step of “receiving a signal indicating one of a plurality of flash ROM types corresponding to a plurality of flash ROMs output from a strapping component”. Neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest a step of “inputting a plurality of address records, wherein each address record comprises

an identity and an address range associated with one of a plurality of flash ROMs". And further, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest a step of "querying the identity by matching the access range and one of the address ranges in the address records".

Similarly, *Shahar et al.* specifically fails to disclose "receiving a signal indicating one of a plurality of flash ROM types corresponding to a plurality of flash ROMs output from a strapping component" (*emphasis added*) because no "strapping component" is disclosed to begin with.

For the reasons stated above, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 11. Claim 11 and all claims that depend therefrom are therefore allowable.

Claims 5, 8, 13 and 18 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over the combination of *Shahar et al.* with *Gulick et al.* and *Kao* (US 6,745,329). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 5 and 8 depend from claim 1, claim 13 has been cancelled, and claim 18 depends from claim 11. Claims 5, 8 and 18 are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that the claims from which they depend are allowable, as *Kao* fails to remedy the deficiencies of *Shahar et al.* and *Gulick et al.*, and the rejection of claim 13 is moot.

Regarding newly added claim 20, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* nor *Kao* teach or suggest "at least one flash ROM corresponding to one of a plurality of flash ROM types". Neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.*

nor *Kao* teach or suggest teach or suggest a strapping component, configured to output a signal indicating the flash ROM type corresponding to the flash ROM before conducting power on self test (POST) procedure". And further, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* nor *Kao* teach or suggest teach or suggest a process unit "receiving the signal, acquiring the flash ROM type according to the signal, and executing an LPC 1.1 memory access instruction with the access range corresponding to a memory cycle corresponding to the flash ROM type".

For the reasons stated above, neither *Shahar et al.* nor *Gulick et al.* nor *Kao* teach or suggest teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 20 of the present application. Claim 20 is therefore allowable over the cited references.

New claims 19 and 21 are dependent from claims 11 and 20 respectively, and therefore allowable for at least the reasons that the parent claims are allowable.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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